

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MADRID 07067 231201Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SSO-00 AID-01 SS-15 NSCE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5050

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 07067

E.O. 11652 N.A.

TAGS: OREP

SUBJECT: CODEL BYRD

REF: (A) STATE 140500, (B) MADRID 6395, (C) MADRID 6529

1. WE ASSUME THAT A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT WILL SOON BE MADE IN WASHINGTON REGARDING THE SENATOR'S VISIT AND THAT AS SER REF A IT WILL STATE EITHER DIRECTLY OR BY IMPLICATION THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP TO BRUSSELS, BONN, AND LONDON WILL BE TO DEMONSTRATE SENATE SUPPORT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION'S NATO POLICIES. HOWEVER, AS NOTED REF B, ANY SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTING OF SPAIN IN THE NATO CONTEXT MIGHT WELL DRAW CHARGES FROM LOCAL OPPONENTS OF NATO OF UNACCEPTABLE U.S. PRESSURE ON THE GOS TO MAKE AN EARLY DECISION. THIS WOULD OBVIOUSLY PROVE COUNER-PRODUCTIVE IN THE CURRENT SPANISH CONTEXT.

2. UNLESS SENATOR OR DEPARTMENT HAVE OBJECTIONS WE THEREFORE HOOE THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT WILL MAKE CLEAR THAT SPAIN IS NOT BEING LUMPED IN WITH THE OTHER COUNTRIES ON A NATO-FOCUSED TRIP. IN OUR DISCUSSION WITH GOS OFFICIALS, AND IF ASKED BY THE PRESS HERE, WE PLAN TO NOTE THAT SENATOR BYRD IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VISITING SPAIN ON A TRIP WHICH ALSO INCLUDES STOPS IN BRUSSELS, BONN, AND LONDON, AND THAT THE PURPOSE OF HIS STOP IN MADRID IS TO FAMILIARIZE HIMSELF WITH SPAIN THROUGH EXCHANGES OF VIEWS WITH KEY SPANISH POLITICAL LEADERS. IN RESPONSE TO POSSIBLE QUESTIONS, WE WOULD PLAN TO SAY THAT THE SENATOR'S VISIT TO SPAIN HAS NO RELATION TO NATO, OR TO THE SPANISH ULTIMATE

DECISION ON MEMBERSHIP, WHICH IS ENTIRELY UP TO SPAIN.
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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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ISecure: 1
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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